

LOCAL OPTION WITH COUNTY UNIT SYSTEM

(Continued from First Page.)

Mann with having associated with negroes under General Mahone and Mann is charging that Tucker associated with negroes in the Ogdin movement.

Not the slightest reference to the negro was made in the platform and he was not directly referred to in a single one of the scores of speeches made before the convention. Six negroes were present when the convention opened Wednesday, but no one paid any attention to them and only one was to be seen in the convention hall yesterday.

Naming of Ticket.

When the naming of the State ticket finally was taken up, Chairman Grover recognizing Col. J. N. Gleaves, who made the speech nominating Hon. William P. Kent for governor. In opening his address he said that the sentiment of the people of the entire state is that the Republicans nominate honorable, clean and upright men. "The man whose name I have the honor to place before this convention as our standard bearer is without a blemish," he said. "I ask the Democratic press and the Democratic party to turn the searchlight full upon him and point out one single blot upon his personal character or his public record. There is no whispering of rumors as to his having falsified any election returns or helped to 'lose' any poll books nor has he ever sought office with one party while a member of another party."

Kent Will Make Hot Fight.

In placing Mr. Kent's name before the convention Col. Gleaves said that he would wage the hottest fight the Republicans have ever waged in Virginia.

Seconding speeches were made by H. K. Wolcott of Norfolk; Mr. Moore, of Richmond, and "Brack" Stovall, of Danville.

On motion of Col. Davidson, of the Fourth district, the nominations were closed and Captain Kent was named by acclamation.

Congressman Slem, Col. S. Brown Allen and several other of the party leaders immediately left the hall and returned a few minutes later with Mr. Kent. As the nominee walked down through the orchestra toward the stage the delegates leaped to their feet and cheered and waved their hats and fans.

Captain Kent read a short speech in which he said that it was once an empty honor to be nominated for governor of Virginia by a Republican convention, but now conditions are changed and there is a likelihood of the Republicans carrying the state. The Democrats themselves, he said, are making victory possible.

Raps Mann and Tucker.

The speaker dwelt at length upon the fight between Mann and Tucker and declared that they are furnishing the Republicans with plenty of material for the impending struggle. "And if the people of Virginia adhere to the traditions of Virginia they'll be no retired to eternal oblivion," he added.

Captain Kent said that he had only recently returned to the United States and that he had not had time to study closely the conditions in Virginia, but that he will immediately set to work to prepare himself for meeting the enemy in combat. He expressed the belief that the time is auspicious for the defeat of the Democrats and declared that all the country is looking on in the fight.

Continuing, the speaker said that a nomination had come to him as most pleasant and pleasing surprise. He had, he said, been recalled to this country from his distant post by a

Platform Adopted by Republicans.

The platform adopted by the Republican State convention yesterday morning charges the Democratic party with failing to live up to its promises and with having been unwilling for many years to give the people of Virginia any platform. It also charges that the party had unnecessarily increased the State debt from \$1,675,000 in 1903 to \$5,250,000 in 1908, resulting in the almost complete depletion of the treasury of the State.

All of the paramount policies of the National Republican party are endorsed, including the tariff "for the protection of the American workmen and the American market." It also favors the movement for a sound and stable currency, the creating of a monetary system, the control of corporations by the federal government and a large navy.

Among the more important planks of the platform are: Abolition of useless State offices created by the Democrats; equal taxation; the election of the members of the State Corporation Commission, and all other State, county and district officers, including commissioners of the revenue and all school officers, by the people; abolition of the fee system; elimination of politics from the public schools; raising of standard of teachers and increase of pay for teachers; careful supervision of text books and the lengthening of school term in the rural districts; improvement of the public roads of the State by liberal appropriations by the State; enactment of such laws as will afford ample protection for depositors in the State banks; proper care of aged Confederate veterans; correction of the so-called insurance evil, whereby exorbitant rates are charged; maintenance of Hayter survey of public oyster rocks.

The platform condemns the action of the Democrats for taking Floyd county out of the Fifth district and thanks Parsons for the fight he made and declares that a correct count of the votes would show him elected. It condemns the Democrats for unfair election laws and the establishment of the poll tax and demands minority representation on all boards and governing bodies. It declares against employment of convict labor in competition with honest, free labor.

State Chairman Slem, National Committeeman Alvah H. Martin and the appointment of Roy E. Cabell as commissioner of internal revenue are endorsed.

bereavement in his family. "And you gentlemen of the convention have done the rest," he said.

By way of conclusion Captain Kent expressed a sincere regret that the man upon whom the convention had decided for the nominee for governor should be unable to make the race on account of illness.

Kent a Former Democrat.

Captain Kent is consul-general to Guatemala, having been appointed to his post by President Roosevelt several years ago. He is a son of former Lieutenant-Governor Kent, of Virginia, a life-long Democrat and was himself a Democrat up to thirteen years ago. He left the Democratic party in 1896 on the money question and soon joined the ranks of the Virginia Republicans. He was born in Wythe county and has lived in Virginia practically all his life.

When Captain Kent concluded his speech, H. A. Anderson, of the Ninth district, nominated State Senator A. T. Lincoln, of Smyth county, Lincoln was the darkest kind of a dark horse in the race and his nomination came as a surprise to many of the delegates. He had not been mentioned in connection with the office and it was whispered about the convention hall that the leaders gave the Southwest delegation the second choice on the ticket in order to call the delegates from that section off on the State-wide prohibition. Whether that was true or not, the State-wide plank was not even presented, but the southwestern delegates refused to accept the plank as it was presented.

Democrats His Friends.

A. P. Crockett, of the Second district, made the seconding speech and then Lincoln was escorted to the platform. He made a rather remarkable speech, declaring that the two Democrats who are running for the Democratic nomination for lieutenant-governor are warm personal friends of his and that no matter which one of them wins the Republicans are to say nothing against him in the coming campaign. "You may denounce his politics, but not his personal character," he said. Lincoln also said that he hadn't sought the nomination and that while he would accept, but he couldn't hope to make a very active campaign.

In one of his characteristic speeches, Col. S. Brown Allen nominated George A. Revercomb for attorney-general, and seconding speeches were made by Powell Royal, of Tazewell, and P. J. Davenport, of Washington county. Revercomb was named by acclamation and Col. S. Brown Allen headed the committee that escorted him to the stage.

"Incubator of issues." Mr. Revercomb made a long and interesting speech of acceptance. He literally roasted the Democratic party alive, declaring its three-time standard bearer, William Jennings Bryan to be the "greatest incubator of issues on earth." And cheers and hearty laughter greeted the sally. Then he said that he supposed Bryan is now hatching more issues to spring four years hence.

The nominee for attorney-general also paid his compliments to Judge Mann and Mr. Tucker, declaring that Tucker says Mann was associated with the negroes under Mahone and Mann says Tucker was associated with them in the Ogdin movement. "We know all about their past history because they've turned State's evidence," continued the speaker, amid applause and laughter.

Locke for Secretary. Attorney George N. Wise, of this city, nominated John B. Locke, of Newport News, for secretary of the commonwealth. To the many local Democrats gathered in the Academy, the nomination of Mr. Locke came as a surprise, but he had been agreed upon late Wednesday night. Patrick McCaig of Lynchburg, made the seconding speech and in the course of his remarks he said that it was not constitutional he'd move to adjourn the convention to meet in Newport News again next year. The statement was greeted with loud applause.

Mr. Locke accepted the nomination in a brief speech, promising to wage

an energetic campaign and to "help roll up a big vote in Tidewater."

Harris Hoge, of Roanoke, nominated Joseph L. Crupper, for State treasurer, and Mr. Davis, of the Fifth district, seconded the nomination. Crupper accepted in a brief speech.

James T. Robson was nominated for commissioner of the agriculture by C. M. Keazel. Robson was not present and State Secretary Hart responded on his behalf.

James L. Sheldon nominated Frank P. Brent for superintendent of public instruction. Brent also was absent.

Appreciate Hospitality.

Just before the convention adjourned, Col. Gleaves offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

"Resolved, that the Republicans of Virginia desire to express their unqualified appreciation of the generous hospitality extended by this splendid people of the great city of Newport News."

This resolution was greeted by cheers.

Temporary Chairman Grover rapped the convention to order at 11:15 o'clock yesterday morning and Rev. Father Friel, rector of St. Vincent's Catholic church, offered the opening prayer.

The committee on permanent organization reported, recommending the election of Mr. Grover as the permanent chairman. The report was adopted without dissent.

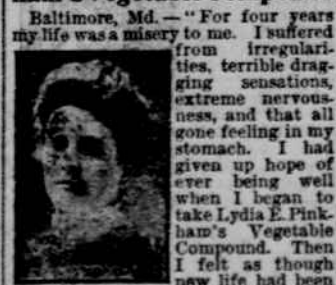
Two Contests Compromised.

The committee on credentials reported that it had fully considered the cases of the contesting delegations from Henry and Shenandoah counties and the city of Petersburg, and had decided to seat both delegations from Shenandoah with a half vote each. One of the victorious delegates from Henry moved that both delegations from that county be seated with a half vote for each delegate and the motion was unanimously carried.

(Continued on Fourth Page.)

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